

# The GARZETTE

March, 1999

Volume 10, Issue 1



## *Special points of interests:*

- Robin Huckaby, WB4GKI is featured in this month's On The Air column.
- Tom Dooley, K4TJD has his QRP setup featured as the Shack Of The Month.
- New Officers and Committee Chairmen, see page 3.

## **Inside this issue:**

No First Amendment For Rules Violators	2
Meeting Minutes	4
Shack Of The Month Tom Dooley, K4TJD	5
On The Air With WB4GKI	6
The ARES Report	8
News From The ARRL	9
Question Of The Month	9

## The President's Pen

By David Adcock, KA4KKF

### Status of GARS

As we begin 1999, the club is in fine shape. Our membership is near 300 and we have 3 repeater systems on the air. The 2 meter, 70 centimeter, 6 meter and packet systems are up and running.

So everything is fine in hamdom. What are we going to do this year? Can you say you made a difference, when this year is over? Let's look forward at what should be happening. It's 1999 and everyone will be worried about the y2k bug. Will it be a problem for everyone or just a few?

During the next 3 months, our main concern will be the weather.



Then we'll move into the summer for field day and other activities outside. By the time August rolls around, it'll be time to do another dog show. A few more activities and Christmas will be here before you know it.

As the biggest and best club in Gwinnett, we must assume the roll as a leader. What does **GARS** need to do this?

1. We need to keep our repeater systems on the air.
2. We need to bring new radio operators in to Amateur Radio.
3. We need to educate the new operators.

Ok, you ask how we do this?

1. We offer classes for people who want to get a license
2. Give seminars on theory and operation.
3. Start clubs in the local schools.
4. Show how much fun we have doing what we do.

What about a club house for our meetings and contest functions? What about installing a 10-meter or 1.25-meter repeater?

*(Continued on page 3)*

## GARS Elects New Officers

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

sons.

The new officers are President David Adcock, KA4KKF; Vice President Rick Morris, KD4VOJ; Secretary Mike Swiderski, K4HBI; Treasurer Jeff Cutchins, KF4NBD; and Activities Manager

Howie Gould, W4NVF.

A hearty **GARS** congratulations to all of the new officers and we all look forward to working with them during the coming year.



## The GARZETTE

*The GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriated publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, submit items in ASCII text format or Microsoft Word format by email to [ichapman@mindspring.com](mailto:ichapman@mindspring.com). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

*The GARZETTE* is created on a Pentium II-300 MHz computer using Microsoft Publisher 98 and Microsoft Office 97.

*The GARZETTE* is published each month with the assistance of Joe Biddle, AD4PZ who interfaces with the printer. Paul Brisendine, K4HCM does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding, labeling, stamping and getting the end product to the Post Office each month. Many thanks to both of them and all article contributors.

### **Deadline for submissions is the first of each month.**

For any additional information contact:

Newsletter Editor:  
Ike Chapman, KE4GYM  
(770)339-8123  
[ichapman@mindspring.com](mailto:ichapman@mindspring.com)

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor



# No First Amendment Protection For Rules Violators

If you are one of those hams who feel that you can violate the Amateur Service rules and then get away with it by claiming the protection of the Constitutions' First Amendment, the FCC has a surprise for you. The agency's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH says that the First Amendment is not going to protect rules violators in the Amateur Radio Service. The FCC attorney says that the two are not even remotely related:

***Hollingsworth: "It has nothing to do with the First Amendment. The First Amendment is alive and well and certainly does not need any help from Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio was not set up to enhance the First Amendment. If these groups keep it up, they will be on Internet chat lines in the future talking about how they pushed for First Amendment on ham radio. They will be asking whatever did happen to those ham frequencies? Who bought them at auction? What third-world countries ended up using them for a national telephone system? This has nothing to do with the First Amendment and that is not the justification for Amateur Radio."***

Hollingsworth made that comment in his exclusive interview with RAIN Producer Hap Holly, KC9RP. In another area, Hollingsworth also says that the FCC is happy with the results of his two forays into on-the-air ham radio trouble spots. As a result, K4ZDH has decided to continue to show up unexpectedly on the air. Who knows, he might even become a part of your next QSO:

***Hollingsworth: "This on the air work will be done periodically. We are taking an in-your-face approach to clear up the problems and I am more than willing to do it."***

By now you may be wondering what other surprises the FCC and Hollingsworth have in store as they proceed with this ham radio clean-up. There are quite a few including the fact that inspectors can now accurately pin point any signal within a few feet even if they are monitoring from thousands of miles away. To find out more, we suggest that you again visit RAIN -- the Radio Amateur Information Network at:

[www.rainreport.com](http://www.rainreport.com)

There you can listen in on part two of Hap Holly's no-holds-barred interview with Riley Hollingsworth. It's also on the telephone at:

(847) 827-7246

Reprinted from the Amateur Radio Newsline.

❖❖❖

### **Random Ramblings**

"The only problem with the speed of light, is it gets here too early in the morning." -- Danny Nevrath

"I have an existential map. It has 'You are here' written all over it." - Steven Wright

"The cat could very well be man's best friend but would never stoop to admitting it." - Doug Larson

❖❖❖

## The President's Pen

*(Continued from page 1)*

Just think of all the neat things this club could do. Hitch what hitch? All we have to do is put our heads together and come up with a few ideas to raise the money to support our functions.

Some clubs do a hamfest to raise money, while others raise their dues. This list shows just a few things to do. I'll bet there are a lot more you can think of.

1. A **GARS** Hamfest
2. Wash cars on the weekend
3. Work the concession stand at the dome for a Falcons game
4. Sell cookbooks
5. Raise the dues
6. Park cars at a dog show
7. Park cars at Road Atlanta
8. Sell doughnuts on the street corner
9. Get donations from businesses

Well, these are just a few things; can you think of any more? Boy that meal at field day was mighty tasty last year. The Christmas party was great too. That new 6-meter repeater sounds good.

I hope that **GARS** will be able to continue to be the best club with the best systems in the southeast for years to come. It's fun to get out and do these events with my fellow hams. Maybe, we'll get a few demos in at the Sam's Club or K-Mart this year. As you can see, an active club requires manpower and funds to provide the little things that make an event a great event that people talk about for months and can't wait to do it again next time. I hope to get a calendar of events out in the April GARZETTE.

Let's make 1999 a year of fun.

73, David-- KA4KKF



## Meeting Minutes

*(Continued from page 4)*  
assist as necessary with this event.

Barry, N1TOQ was publicly commended for making TechFest '99 a success. Over 150 people attended the fest.

Eddie, WD4JEM has asked for volunteers to work safety with the Lanier Kayak Club. The next event will be held on May 22 and 23. It will be two 30 mile marathon races. If you can help, contact Eddie.

Geoffrey Allen is asking for volunteers to assist in the annual Georgia Special Olympics, held at Southern Technical Institute in Marietta this weekend. Contact Jeffrey if you can help the cause.

There are several Tech No-Code classes either in session or about to start in the next few weeks. If you know of someone who wants to become a ham at this entry level, contact any board member for more information for a location near you.

The meeting was closed by President Ike Chapman at 8:49 pm.

As the outgoing secretary, I would like to express my thanks and gratitude for making this past year one to remember. I shall remain active in the club, and offer assistance as I can.

73, de K9AOK  
John



## GARS Officers President

David Adcock, KA4KKF (770) 271-9398

### Vice President

Rick Morris, KD4VOJ (770)945-5818

### Secretary

Mike Swiderski, K4HBI (770)449-0369

### Treasurer

Jeff Cutchins, KF4NBD (770) 614-8750

### Activities Manager

Howie Gould, W4NVF (770)921-8362

## Board Of Directors

Johnny Fearon, W4WKP (770)466-4038

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM (770)339-8123

## COMMITTEES

### Membership Chairman

Jack Perry, KN6DO (770)844-7306

### Publicity Chairman

Paul Brisendine, K4HCM (770)962-5247

### Newsletter Editor

Ike Chapman, KE4GYM (770)339-8123

### License Trustee

Randy Drescher, K4HS (770)925-9549

### Repeater Chairman

Howie Gould, W4NVF (770)921-8362

### Tech Fest

Barry Zoll, N1TOQ (770)277-5175

### TVI

David Schulte, KT4NK (770)923-0389

### Contest Manager

Open

### Net Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

### CW Net Manager

Gene Gach, KF4NOG (770) 925-0186

### Field Day

Ade Wirth, W4ADE (770)614-3743

Don Button, AJ1T (770) 476-2432

### Education Coordinator

Win Jackson, N1TWX (404)869-1347

### Legal Counsel

Bill Brandon, WV4BB (770)554-9998

### Apparel Manager

Susan Swiderski, AF4FO (770)449-0369

### Christmas Party Chairman

Tammy Sokol, (770)925-1619

### Digital Radio Chairman

Open

### QSL Manager

Ade Wirth, N2BSG (770)614-3743



# Meeting Minutes

By John Sokol, K9AOK

Minutes for General Meeting.

Date: February 18, 1999.

Location: Central Gwinnett Baptist Church

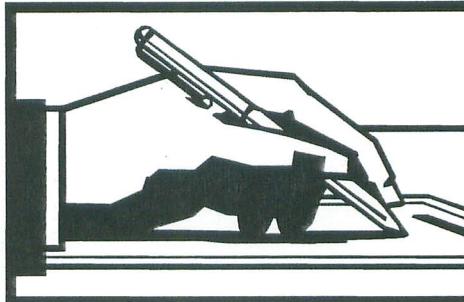
The meeting was opened by President Ike Chapman, KE4GYM at 7:38 PM. Ike reviewed the high points of the past year. The obtaining of the 501(3c) status. The activities with the Spring tornadoes in local communities. The positive bank account. The volunteer services provided this past year. The activation of the 6 meter repeater.

Ike then had the current executive board introduce themselves. VP Marty Fowler, KE4MLH; Secretary John Sokol, K9AOK; Activities Kevin McClure, KF4HFN; Treasurer Randy Drescher, K4HS has been delayed.

Tonight's visitors were invited to introduce themselves, 3 in attendance. Tonight's membership then introduced themselves.

A drawing for the 6 meter HT was held. In order to have been considered for the drawing, the person must have first volunteered at least one shift of work at the Cherokee Rose Dog show a few weeks ago. Larson Watts, KF4HLH was the lucky recipient. Also given away in recognition of the work volunteered were 2- \$25 HRO Gift Certificates. Brandon Morris, son of Rick Morris, KD4VOJ and Buddy Menschew, KE4YZS are now on a spending spree. James Vick received a 1 year subscription to World Radio magazine.

Marty, KE4MLH elicited help regarding the 1999 annual **GARS** picnic. We are looking for an oversized cast iron cooking pot. If one is found, we can expect more variation of cooked food this year. If you



know of a similar appliance, please contact Marty. His number is in the roster.

Ike conducted the business portion of the meeting. The secretary's January 1999 meeting minutes, as posted in the current edition of the GARZETTE, were approved by a unanimous vote.

Randy, K4HS read the treasurer's statement to the audience, with a final balance of \$5,153. The report has been attached to the secretary's minutes. The report was approved by unanimous vote.

The new membership chairman, Jack Perry, KN6DO introduced 3 new members to the club. All three were voted in unanimously.

Ike introduced the nominees for the Executive Board to the membership in attendance.

Those nominees are:

President: David Adcock, KA4KKF .. in absentia .. unopposed  
 Vice President: Kevin McClure, KF4HFN and Rick Morris, KD4VOJ  
 Treasurer: Jeff Cutchens, KF4NBD .. unopposed  
 Secretary: Mike Swiderski, K4HBI .. unopposed  
 Activities: Howie Gould, W4NVF .. unopposed

Both people vying for the VP position were given a few minutes to voice their goals and points of view.

Upon completion of both presentations, paper ballots were distributed for the membership to cast votes.

The votes were retrieved by John, K9AOK and were counted by John and Randy, K4HS. Each verified the other's count. The Executive board for 1999-2000 is:

President: David Adcock, KA4KKF; Vice President: Rick Morris, KD4VOJ; Treasurer: Jeff Cutchens, KF4NBD; Secretary: Mike Swiderski, K4HBI; Activities: Howie Gould, W4NVF. Congratulations, gentlemen! We look forward to an exciting year under your direction!

A meeting drawing was held. Gordon, KF4OKA was the big winner of a \$25 gift certificate to HRO.

Ike advised the old board and the new board that David is requesting a transitional meeting to be held at a location to be determined on Saturday, March 13th.

Susan, AF4FO advised the engraved name badges have gone up in cost. After a discussion, it was agreed that Susan contact other vendors to see what can be supplied and at what cost to the member. Susan also is asking for assistance with the "Welcome Table" for this year's Field Day, held on June 26-27. Contact Susan if you can help her in this extra-point activity. Mike, K4HBI asked for volunteers for band captains for field day this year. If you want to help out, please contact Mike. John, K9AOK advised that due to the great response to the T-shirts last year, he will pursue this again for 1999.

John also has volunteered his wife, Tammy, to take on the December holiday party. Rick, KD4VOJ advised that Anita Morris will gladly

(Continued on page 3)

# Shack Of The Month

*Featuring The QRP Setup of Tom Dooley, K4TJD*

Tom reports that he started this project last September in an effort to increase his code speed. "I've found my playing more than concentrating on my code speed, but this has been my shack", says Tom, "my QRP toys." He says that he's not been using his other shack in order to make himself work on the code. He promises us all a future visit to view the rest of his setup.

Tom's pictured equipment from top to bottom:

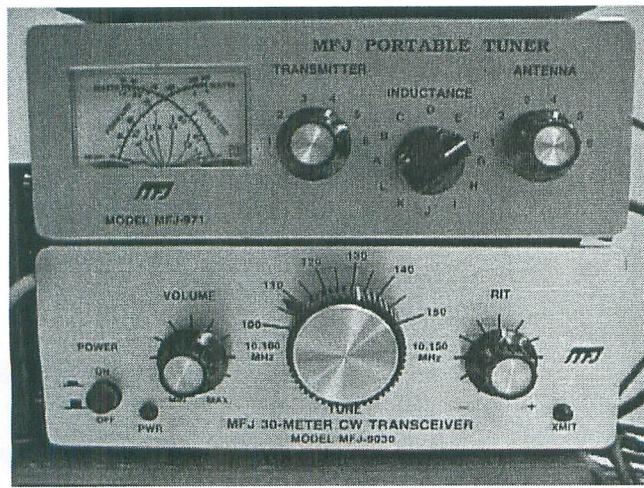
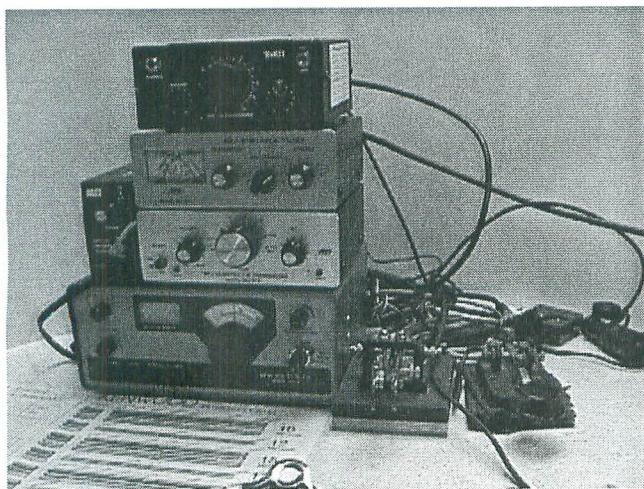
1. Ten Tec 1340, 40 meter CW rig built from a kit, 2.5 watts out to a G5RV dipole up about 50 feet.

2. MFJ-971 antenna tuner, low power to 300 watts.
3. MFJ 9030, 30 meter CW rig bought at Shelby in 09/98, runs 4 watts out.
4. Heathkit HW-8, 4 band (80, 40, 20 and 15 meters) bought on the internet and output ranges from 1 watt on 80 meters to 3 watts on 15 meters.
5. The box on the left is an amplified speaker made by MFJ for the HW-8 and MFJ-9030. The HW-8 does not have a speaker and the MFJ has a tuner sitting on its speaker!
6. Paddles are Brown Brothers paddles that I bought used and

the straight key is made by Wm. M. Nye Company. I use the paddles and I have the straight key for my ham buddies who are paddle challenged!

*All digital images by Tom Dooley, K4TJD.*

*Want to see your shack featured in a future issue? Contact the Editor and arrangements will be for photographs to be taken or to use existing photographs.*



# On The Air With Rob Huckaby, WB4GKI

By Karl Phillips, K4GZZ

This month's ON THE AIR features a long-standing member of the **GARS** club and a former President, Rob Huckaby, WB4GKI. Rob was born in Griffin, Georgia and went all the way through school there. He graduated from Griffin High School in 1969. Later, he attended Georgia Tech and majored in Electronics Engineering. He graduated from Georgia Tech in 1974. While at Tech, Rob was a Co-operative student. Teachers always like students that cooperate !! Actually that means he attended the college for 5 years and came out with the equivalent of 25 months of job experience upon graduation. Rob then went to work for Integrated Systems Incorporated. Rob also has an MBA from Georgia State, which he attained in 1989.

Rob got interested in ham radio at the age of 15. While noting Rob's interest in electronics (Rob was already repairing radios and amplifiers at the age of 15), Rob's mother noticed that the Charles E. Newton Radio Club (K4HYB) was giving ham radio classes. She encouraged Rob to attend these classes.

Rob was licensed WN4GKI as a Novice in 1967. His first rig was an EICO 720 and his receiver was a Lafayette HA - 700. Rob used 80 and 40 meter dipoles. Get this !! Rob transmitted on the dipoles and received by hooking up to the tin roof of his workshop/shack. After getting his Novice in the mail in June of 1967, Rob moved through to Advanced Class by December. Rob got his Extra Class in 1978 and also holds a First Class Radio-telephone Commercial license. Rob thinks that the Extra was



harder than the Advanced in those days. A lot of people say it's the other way around now.

Rob acquired a Hallicrafters HT-37 transmitter and a NC-300 receiver. The receiver was bought from none other than Johnny Fearon, W4WKP. He still maintains these pieces of gear to this day.

Rob has worked for GEC Marconi Avionics for the past 24 years. The company has recently changed its name to Marconi Aerospace Avionics and will be moving its' operations to Austin, Texas. Rob will stay in here in Gwinnett County and seek other opportunities, choosing not to remain with the company and relocate. It is very fortunate for our club that Rob will remain in the area and a part of our club.

Rob joined **GARS** in 1977 and was elected President of **GARS**, serving from 1981-1982. Rob estimates that the membership in 1977 numbered around 20 to 30 hams. For meetings, they almost had 100 percent member participation.

Rob's wife, Jan is also a member of **GARS** and licensed as a Technician Plus as KF4HRZ (HERS). She has been licensed for about 2 years and does a good bit of monitoring. Rob says there's al-

ways a radio on in the house. Just recently, Jan just missed passing her General by one question. That's a tough break, but she's sure to pass it next time.

Rob's current working conditions consist of two Kenwoods, the 850 and the 690. He also has a TM-255 mobile and a TM-733 dual band mobile. I think that's what he said. I'm so corn-fused !!! Rob has a 3 element yagi designed from the 1950's with Hygain and Moseley parts. I guess you could call it a "Heinz 57". He also has a "fan" inverted Vee multi-element of feedline for 80/75/40 and 30 meters. Harmonically he uses it on 15/10 and 6 meters. He also has 17 and 12 meter dipoles. Here's what else he has, a 4BTV trap vertical, Jan's Ten-Tec 40 meter QRP rig and a "boat anchor" in the form of a home-brew 6C4 oscillator with a 6L6 final. He gets about 10 watts out and has plug in coils for 160 thru 80 and 40 meters. Total cost on that 6C6 ??? How bout a whopping \$4.50.

Rob likes to operate 160 to 2 meters, SSB and CW....but 90 percent of his HF operating is on CW. Rob also operates FM on 6 meters and has a tube type home-brew keyer that is as big as a rig itself !!! He also has a home-brew amplifier with a pair of 813's and a sweet 500 watts out !! Rob says he especially likes to ragchew on CW.

Rob also likes to talk with World War II veterans and hear their stories. He is an aircraft "buff". Rob's father flew during the war and Rob thinks one particular QSO with W5UFR revealed that the ham on the other end actually flew cover for Rob's dad in the Nor-

(Continued on page 7)

## On The Air With Rob Huckaby, WB4GKI

(Continued from page 6)  
mandy landings.

Rob and Jan have 6 harmonics and 3 grand-harmonics. The youngest is 19 and in the Navy in Charleston. The oldest is 24. It's 3 boys and 3 girls when you break it down. Rob is also a member of the Alford Memorial Radio Club, the Charles E. Newton Club and the K3IVO club in Maryland. Rob says he likes the friendliness of the **GARS** club. He also likes the diversity and vision of the club. Rob and Jan drive "mobile radio mounts". His is a 1964 Buick and hers is a 1974 Nova.

You will find, like I did, that Rob is a "tell-it-like-it-is" guy. He doesn't do much beating around the bush. Rob is a very friendly guy and I really enjoyed talking with him. You will probably catch him on the repeater early in the morning or in the afternoon. Get to know Rob and Jan. They are good people and good amateurs as well.

73 73 73 73 73 - Karl K4GZZ

❖❖❖

### Random Ramblings

"We are living in a world today where lemonade is made from artificial flavors and furniture polish is made from real lemons..."

-- Alfred E. Newman

"If everything's under control, you're going too slow."

-- Mario Andretti

❖❖❖

## From The Editor's Desk

(Continued from page 12)

glad to work it in during the coming month. The question can be a technical discussion or a non-technical discussion.

Another new feature that debuts with this issue is the **Shack Of The Month**. At the weekly **GARS** breakfast a couple of weeks ago, I was talking with some fellow hams about adding a monthly centerfold. After a bit the discussion came around to having a **GARS** member's shack photographed as the centerfold and this month it's here. Our first volunteer is Tom Dooley, K4TJD who stepped forward to help out on very short notice. If you'd like to volunteer to have your shack and equipment featured let me know. I'll either make arrangements for someone to come by and take some photos. If you already have some photos, I'll scan them for you and return the photos to you.

I'm always open to ideas and if you've got one for a feature, a photo layout, or an article, please let me know and I'll be glad to lend any assistance you need to get it going and get it published.

I also look forward to continuing with what have become regular monthly features such as **The President's Pen, Meeting Minutes, On The Air With ..., ARES Report**. I'm also bringing back **Random Ramblings**, a collection of quotes that I've collected from here and there and will use as filler for white spaces.

While I'm at it, let me talk a few minutes about my other new duty and that is the job of being webmaster for the **GARS** web site. I've got a completely new layout up and running and hope you have taken time to take a look at it at <http://www.gars.org>. One of the new features I've put there is a link page for club members personal web sites. If you've got a personal page

and would like to have it linked from the **GARS** page, send me the URL and I'll be glad to add the link.

I've got a few other items that I am in the process of adding to the web site but they are not quite ready yet. In the meantime, if you've got some ideas for links that you'd like to have in place, or some other features you'd like to see online with our web site please let me know.

If you'd like to have something published in *The GARZETTE*, the deadline is the first of each month. I can take text in most any format but prefer Word files in any version. Pictures can be submitted in most any format but I prefer JPG or TIF. Text files and picture files can be sent to [ichapman@mindspring.com](mailto:ichapman@mindspring.com) if you have access to email. If you don't have email, let me know and I'll make other arrangements to pick up the files from you.

73 for this issue,  
Ike, KE4GYM

❖❖❖

### Want, Swap, Sell

Alinco DJ-180  
5W HT, With Speaker Mic, Battery  
eliminator/cigarette lighter adapter,  
charger, Larsen Antenna, Alinco  
Antenna, 200 Memory Chip  
\$160

Kenwood TM-241  
50W 2M Mobile  
\$200

Or will trade both for Yaesu  
2M/440 mobile. Must be have  
cross band function.

Contact Larson Watts, KF4HLF  
(770) 475-0673

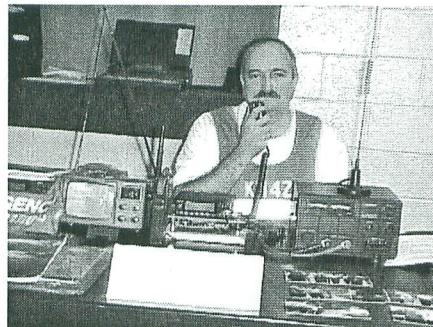
# The ARES Report

By Lowry Rouse, KM4Z  
ARRL Gwinnett County EC

Last month I had an opportunity to view damage caused by tornadoes that tore through Beebe, AR. If you remember back a couple of months ago on Jan. 21st, we were at the monthly club meeting discussing the fact severe weather was heading our way from the west. Tom Crowell (KU4CK) called me on the repeater during the **GARS** meeting. He reported this weather front had been creating a lot of damage in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama and was heading our way. At the same time we were discussing the potential threat here, Beebe, AR. was literally being torn apart by a tornado at that moment. A total of 31 touchdowns was the final tally per the Sheriff's office in White County.

An interesting note, at the same moment the White County EC activated the severe weather net, a tornado was just forming near his house. It didn't hit his home directly, but came close enough to blow most of the shingles off the rear of his house and blow all his antennas down. The net control was assumed immediately by Roger Gray (N5QS), the Section Manager of Arkansas, and he continued in that position for the next 22 hours straight. Within a 24 hour period, Roger said approximately 150 Ham volunteers came from all areas to help out. A total of 300 Hams participated over the next 2 weeks while the restoring of utilities was taking place. The communications were completely rendered useless including cellular telephone. A portable cell unit was brought in and set-up temporarily which restored some cellular communications.

The community is recovering, but a lot of debris is still hanging in the trees and big piles of rubble still wait to be moved off to a landfill.



Lowry Rouse, KM4Z at the Second Annual **GARS** Techfest.  
Digital Image by Brian Seigmund, KF4MWI.

It's very sad to see residents standing and looking at empty lots where their homes once stood. But, they're alive and with the help of relief organizations, relatives, friends and volunteers, they'll be able to start over and rebuild. Of course we saw this same thing last April here in Gwinnett Co., but it still burns heavily into my mind that this could be my home that was destroyed or even worse, loss of a loved one. It sure makes you feel thankful that your property was passed over by the tornado. Let's keep this Arkansas community in our thoughts and prayers and prepare for our own upcoming tornado season.

Upcoming ARES meeting speakers will be Rick Darby (KE4NJK) DEC of NE Georgia, Jim

Stafford (W4QO) speaking on the operations at SCITREK and I want to get Steve Strong (KS4EL) Metro Atlanta DEC to give another talk on his Search and Rescue Group activities. He recently was called to the Fiji Islands, yes I said Fiji Islands in the South Pacific to search for a lost American hiker. Steve found unfortunately, only the remains of the hiker. He located the remains in a relatively short period of time after arriving on the Island, despite the fact local authorities had searched several days to no avail. It was quite interesting listening to Steve's story of how he became involved and what all it took to get his search dog and himself to Fiji.

Don't forget the ARES meetings at Gwinnett Medical Center on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:30 to 9 PM in the education wing of the hospital. Please check in to our Monday night net at 9PM on the **GARS** repeater 147.075+. If you're not an ARES member and want to be, it's very simple to become one. Call me or see at a meeting, I have a short form for you to fill out, give you a signed ARES identification card and you'll be official!

That's all for this month. Talk to everyone later.

Best Regards,  
Lowry KM4Z  
EC Gwinnett Co.



## Random Ramblings

"A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort." — Herm Albright



## News From The ARRL

### FCC SHUTS DOWN TROUBLESOME BAY AREA REPEATER

The FCC has shut down for 120 days the K7IJ repeater facility on Grizzly Peak in the San Francisco Bay area and told the licensee his ham ticket could be in jeopardy. The FCC took the action by modifying K7IJ's license to prohibit repeater operation starting midnight February 28, 1999. The repeater operates on 145.29, 223.78, 440.175, and 441.175 MHz. The FCC also set aside recent license grants of four individuals accused of unlicensed operation on the repeater prior to obtaining their amateur tickets and other behavior. The cases, the first major VHF/UHF enforcement actions the FCC has taken in recent months, were brought to the Commission's attention by the Amateur Auxiliary.

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, said that for almost a year, the repeater's control operator, identified as Blake B. Jenkins, N6YSA, of Berkeley, California, "has apparently not only allowed, but encouraged, use of the repeater by unlicensed operators, rebroadcast of cordless telephone calls, playing of music, and profanity and obscenity." He said extended QSOs have taken place between the control operator and unlicensed stations.

Hollingsworth said the situation was brought to the attention of the licensee, Bruce Wachtell of Carson City, Nevada, but nothing was done. "Such operations are not only contrary to the Amateur Radio Service rules and frequency allocations, but degrade the service for legitimate radio licensees as well," Hollingsworth said in a certified letter to Wachtell February 25. "The



operation of the K7IJ repeater system in this manner may reflect adversely upon your qualifications to hold a Commission license."

Hollingsworth said Jenkins' "actions and omissions" while control operator were under separate FCC review, along with those of the secondary control op, Steven R. Rossi, KE6LNH, of Novato, California. The FCC set aside the recent license grants or upgrades of James C. Walker, KF6VAA; Gordon B. Reese III, KF6QKA; Michael J. Nichols, KF6UAS; and Eric B. Shuler, KF6BMG (ex-KF6UJU) pending further investigation. The FCC has permitted Reese, who just upgraded to Tech Plus, to retain his Technician operating privileges while its investigation continues.

The FCC also warned Mervyn Ehambrave of E Palo Alto, California, about unlicensed operation on the K7IJ repeater, and warned Timmy O Sheen Sr, N6MZA, about behavior including "jamming and rebroadcasts of cordless phones" on the repeater, Hollingsworth said.

*Reprinted from the ARRL Letter, Volume 18, Number 9, published by the American Radio Relay League.*



## Question Of The Month

Each month a new question, posed by one of our members will be posted. Then the responses to that question will be posted the following month with the new question.

"I have a question that has bothered me for years. How can I quantitatively measure the quality of my ground system? I use two ten-foot copper clad rods and have never had any grounding problems. So, while I am sure this is adequate for my system, I would still like to have a quantitative evaluation. It also seems obvious that frequency plays an enormous role. The ideal, of course, is to have a low-impedance broad-band system. But, I suspect, many ground systems probably have a rather well-defined resonance. In my thirty years of reading *QST*, I've never seen this adequately addressed." Brian Page, N4TRB

Send your responses to the Editor as shown on page 2.



### Help Wanted

Volunteers need to join the Tuesday night CW Net Team. Due to the recent elections and change in duties of several Team members we need some new operators. This will enable a schedule of running the net each 4 to six weeks.

To sign up or get more information please contact:

Gene Gach, KF4NOG  
GARS CW Net Manager  
770-925-0186



## Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

#### Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

Old Hickory House  
5490 Chamblee/Dunwoody Rd, Dunwoody  
Dutch dinner is at 6:30 PM, followed by meeting.  
Talk In 145.410(-)

#### Kennehoochee ARC

First United Methodist Church in Marietta  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

#### Atlanta Radio Club

American Red Cross Building, Lindberg Plaza  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

#### N.E. Georgia ARC

Jefferson Civic Center  
Off of Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225(+)

### Second Wednesday

#### North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Ryan's Steak House  
Alpharetta Highway (Hwy 9), Alpharetta  
Dinner at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

### Second Thursday

#### Alford Memorial Radio Club

Killian Hall, Killian Hill Road  
Lilburn  
Dinner at 6:00 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

#### East Atlanta LAN

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church  
Dunwoody  
Meeting is at 10:00 AM  
Talk In - 145.410(-) and 443.025(+)

### Third THURSDAY



#### Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Central Baptist Church  
Gwinnett Drive  
Lawrenceville  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM in the fellowship hall.  
Talk In -147.075(+) and 444.525(+)



## Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

**GARS** publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

### First Sunday

WCARS VEC

2:00 PM

(Except July and September)

Johnson High School

3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainsville

Terry Jones, W4TL (770)967-6364

### First Saturday

9:00AM

Clayton County Emergency  
Management Building

7496 N. McDonough St., Jonesboro

George White, KN4NG (770)361-6850

### Second Tuesday

7:00PM

Walton EMC

3645 Lenora Church Rd, Snellville

Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA

(770)498-7759

### Second Saturday

CA VEC

8:30 AM

Stone Mountain Methodist Church

5312 West Mountain St.

Stone Mountain

Hal Martin, KI4RD

(770)978-9160

### Third Saturday

CA VEC

9:00AM

Marietta First United Methodist Church

Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave

Marietta

Larry Huff, WA4CQZ

(770)955-3171

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC

7:00 PM

United Way Service Center

6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

Jessie Clower, KB4WFK

(770)942-6466.

### Fourth Friday

W5YI VEC

7:00 PM

St. John Neumann Church

801 Tom Smith Road

Lilburn

Headphones Provided!

Howie Gould, W4NVF

(770)921-8362



## READY FOR A MOVE?

For a Great Experience with a  
Professional,  
Service-Orientated Realtor...

CALL ME!

## SHARON ADCOCK, GRI

- Associate Broker
- Life Member Million Dollar Club
- Top 3% Company Sales Production
- Executive Sales Associate
- Accredited Relocation Counselor
- **READY TO GO TO WORK FOR YOU!**

**COLDWELL  
BANKER**

**BUCKHEAD  
BROKERS**

3850 Pleasant Hill Rd.  
Duluth, GA 30096



Sharon.Adcock@realtor.com  
(Voice Mail) 770-495-3244  
(Pager) 404-776-2609  
(Fax) 770-623-1919

## GARS Communication System

### 6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) MHz  
82.5 PL

### Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### 2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

### Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

Bogan Road, Buford

Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### 70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL

### Main Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

*Under construction*

Bogan Road, Buford

Goshen Springs Road, Norcross

### Packet BBS/Node

145.070 MHz -- 1200 Baud  
441.000 MHz -- 9600 Baud

Connect to GARS/KD6CLO for BBS  
Connect to LAW/KD6CLO for Net/Rom Node

### APRS

145.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR/Relay



Industrial Control Systems
▲
Sales
▲
Service



**Baker**  
TECHNICAL SERVICES  
A Division of J M Baker Company Inc.

**James M. Baker**

2875 N. Berkeley Lake Rd.  
Suite 17  
Duluth, GA 30096

Phone: (770) 623-5535  
Fax: (770) 497-0479

### 12 Store Buying Power!



**HAM  
RADIO  
OUTLET**  
WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

**ATLANTA, GA**  
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340  
(770) 263-0700  
(800) 444-7037  
Phil, W4DRO, Mgr.  
Doraville, 1 mi. no. off I-285

**YAESU**

**325. Coupon  
Discount on all  
YAESU Radios  
Except E-450**

Call for  
Possible Extensions  
Coupon Expiration  
November 30th

**FT-840**

- 100W • 12V DC • DDS
- Gen. Cov. Rx, 130 min.
- Optional Ext. Auto • Timers Available

Call Now For Our Low Pricing!

**FT-11R/41R**

- 150 Mem. Channels
- 1.5W standard
- 8W option
- Alpha-numeric display
- Compact & back lit keypad

Call For Low Price!

**VX-1R**

- 250 Memory Channels
- 5W output
- Rx 144-146MHz, 10-999MHz  
plus AM (100 ICA band blocked)
- Lithium ion Battery

Call Now For Your Low Price!

**FT-50RD**

- 2M/440 MHz Compact HT
- DMR, Decode, Paging Built-in
- Alpha numeric display
- Wide Band receive
- Battery Saver
- 112 Memories
- MIL-Spec
- Handheld scanning

Call For  
Your Low  
Pricing!

**FT-100**

- Compact Transceiver w/adjustable front panel
- Rx 10.8MHz to 90MHz (roll blocked)
- Tx 100W 160-6M, 50W 2M, 30W 70CM
- Built-in DSP, Vox, CW keyer
- 300 Memories

Call Now For Low Pricing!

**Look for the  
HRO Home Page  
on the  
World Wide Web  
<http://www.hamradiooutlet.com>**

**COAST TO COAST**  
FEDERAL COMM.  
IPS - Most Cities Over 100  
Radio Deliveries From  
The State Nearest To You!

## GWINNETT COLLISION CENTER, INC.

305 Sharon Ind. Way  
Suwanee, Georgia 30024  
945-0161  
Import and Domestic  
Unibody and Frame Repair ws  
Marty Fowler, KE4MLH      Mark Justice

**GWINNETT AMATEUR RADIO  
SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048



*Giving Amateur Radio Spirit!*

**Visit us on the Web!**  
[www.gars.org](http://www.gars.org)

## **From The Editor's Desk**

*By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM*

Here we go again, two years ago I was pretty sure I'd put my last issue of this great publication together. But like so many things in life, never say never. When our new President David Adcock, KA4KKF asked it I would think about taking over as Newsletter Editor and Webmaster it didn't take much consideration on my part to say yes.

Many things have changed over the past two years with our newsletter. But one thing has not, I step in to succeed someone that has done a fantastic job as editor. When I first did this job about 3 1/2 years ago, I took over from Dean Matthews, AD4OD who had set a pretty high standard for *The GARZETTE*. Now I step in after Joe Biddle, AD4PZ has raised the bar even higher.



My challenge once again is to at the very least maintain the standards that Joe has set over the past two years and if possible to make some changes and improvements. I can't guarantee those improvements but I can tell you they'll be a few changes, not necessarily a better way of doing things but certainly my way of doing things. The first of these should already be apparent

with a new layout and a somewhat new look.

I've also got some ideas for some new articles that will hopefully become monthly features of *The GARZETTE*. The first of these makes it appearance this month with the ***Question Of The Month***. Each month I hope to pose a question relating to amateur radio in general or something relating directly to **GARS**. Who knows, maybe a question about computers or something else may slip in from time to time. Our readership will be invited to send in a response to the question and at least some of those responses will be printed the following month along with the new question for the coming month. If you've got a question that you'd like to see posed let me know and I'll be

*(Continued on page 7)*